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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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50X1-HUM

COUNTRY Hungary

REPORT

SUBJECT Military Telecommunications
in Hungary

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Country: Hungary

Type of Information: Military Telecommunications

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SECRET

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] In the early days the Hungarians used tubes from ordinary hearing aids. These were available through the regular trade. Later they began to import similar tubes from the USSR.

The Hungarian factory TUNGSRAM tried to manufacture special tubes for the fuse. This was rather on an experimental basis, and no full scale production was ever tried as the tubes were unreliable in that they did not function evenly.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The whole experiment mentioned above was halted in 1956, due to the unreliability of the tubes. The firm never became involved in real production.

The experiment was apparently carried out by the Institute of Telecommunications, and such tubes as were made, were turned out by TUNGSRAM.

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] The design attempted was an original Hungarian one. Although Soviet experts did visit the Institute from time to time, "they contributed no useful advice, but just looked on".

SECRET

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] - 2 -

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] the production of PM 28 had been moved from the BELOIANNISZ to the ORION plant. Actual production has not been started - "things are just being prepared.

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] Production of PM-24 was halted in 1961. [redacted] production was about 100 - 200 stations per year.

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] most of the common parts were obtained from normal Hungarian suppliers, while BELOIANNISZ manufactured the rest [redacted]

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] There were problems, particularly with electronic condensers [redacted]

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

An Hungarian firm (name not recalled) tried to manufacture electronic condensers but the product was far from reliable and production ceased.

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] Hungarian design engineers are anything but cost-conscious [redacted] There was no cost accounting whatsoever if it came to design of military equipment [redacted]

[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] the difference in price in this case was due to the repeater station being simpler and not as effective as the end station. [redacted] Possibly the repeater had only a receiver and not a transceiver [redacted]

[redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] 50X1-HUM
[redacted] 50X1-HUM

[redacted] the only civil installation was in connection with an electric power plant between BAHIDA and BUDAPEST.

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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a PM28. [redacted] Bulgaria might have purchased

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[redacted]

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[redacted] the PM/24 was found to be unreliable,
and after these initial orders there were no follow-ups,
so production ceased in 1961. [redacted]

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[redacted]

GENERAL COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT

[redacted] aluminum
coaxial cable [redacted]

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[redacted] the only plant producing this was the BELOIANNISZ
factory in Buda.

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[redacted]

[redacted] Yearly production (for 1959 and 1960 was
4000 - 5000 meters.

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[redacted]
[redacted] corrected [redacted]
impression of "cable" by saying that this should really be
called a transmission line, (not cable). The line was rigid,
(not flexible) and fitted together in sections by threads
(as in pipe).

The problems they encountered were due to the "softness"
of the metal and were encountered when fitting the sections
together. If undue pressure was used, the stress spoiled
the threading.

Electrically the line was very successful.

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(mass) production of civilian goods (radio, T.V. etc) achieved the goals set.

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transistorized pocket transceiver

was intended for police forces only. Even the colour of the sets were "police grey". The set was really "too delicate" for military use. Indeed even the police had trouble due to its lack of ruggedness and about 80 out of 100 sets were returned to the factory with defects caused (mostly) by rough handling.

military. no set being developed for the

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It is very likely that MOLYBDEN is being exported from Hungary to Czechoslovakia".

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Q. (b) the USSR dependence on the Bloc for communications equipment

During recent years, the Russians have taken positive steps towards self sufficiency in this field. There has been much dissatisfaction on the part of the Russians concerning the filling of their orders. The Russians find, only too often, that their orders are very slow at being filled, and often improperly carried out. There is too, the usual poor quality.

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the Hungarians and the Czechs are not lending the Russians a hand at setting up their own industry.

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

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[Redacted] Any
equipment [Redacted] contained imported components.
The Hungarians made few - if any - transistors capable of
working with high frequency.

[Redacted]

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[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] the Hungarian Telecom Equipment 300 MC 6
Channel Set [Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted] had run into
serious problems, the main one being that the transmitter
did not work on certain frequencies and it did not have the
required capacity (low power output).

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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[redacted] there was only one model and
it was an experimental model.
[redacted]

[redacted]

[redacted] the location of the terminal in Budapest
for the UHF link Budapest-Miskolc [redacted]

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[redacted] On BARLANG Utca, O-BUDA district No 3, BUDA.

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[redacted] Going towards the hills called 'HARMASHATAR
HEGY' you pass a cave which is quite a tourist attraction.
From here you can see the station. On the roof of a one
storey building is an antenna of 2 parabaloids. [redacted]

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[redacted] the main communications wireline network
to the USSR located [redacted]

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[redacted] Between the city of Budapest and Csap, the border
town.

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[redacted] the Soviets [redacted] operate their own wireline
communication in Hungary [redacted]

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[redacted]
[redacted] The
Russian line is heavier than those of the Hungarian postal
or railway authorities.

[redacted]

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[redacted]

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[redacted]

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MILITARY

[redacted] responsible
for research and development for the armed forces [redacted]

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[redacted] was the Institute of War
Techniques which was the overriding authority. [redacted]
[redacted]

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[redacted] the Hungarian
Army's central supply depot for signal equipment [redacted]

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[redacted]
[redacted] at GYALI utca. It was camouflaged and in theory,
under the aegis of the postal department.

[redacted] for a firm to get an employee
exempted from military service [redacted]

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[redacted] few if
any have been fortunate.

It is quite common to be recalled for a three
month refresher course with the reserve and even this is
difficult to avoid (or evade). It is especially difficult
if not impossible for technically trained personnel (engineers,
doctors, etc) to escape this as most are (or were) commissioned
officers.

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